

**ABSTRACT**

**WA-II-263**

**Steel Truss Bridge over the Antietam Creek      1889**  
**Boonsboro-Tilghmanton Vicinity**  
**public**

This structure built in 1889 by the Smith Bridge Co. of Toledo, Ohio, is one of relatively few steel truss bridges in Washington County. All remaining examples date from the late 19th century and represent a type of bridge construction prevalent at that time. This bridge has accommodated transportation needs in the area since 1889, thus aiding local travel and commerce. Still in daily use, the bridge reflects the engineering abilities of its builders.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

2203723617

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Steel Truss Bridge over the Antietam Creek

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Manor Church Road

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF Boonsboro-Tilghmanton

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Washington

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☒ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☒ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Board of County Commissioners of Washington County Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Washington County Court House

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21740

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Court House

STREET &amp; NUMBER

West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

WA-II-263

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The bridge carries Manor Church Road across the Antietam Creek west of Tilghmanton and east of the junction of Manor Church, Mill Point, Wheeler and Monroe Roads in Washington County, Maryland.

The structure is a single lane steel truss span with vertical truss members reinforced by diagonal tension rods. Wooden timbers and decking comprise the flooring. Metal tablets attached to the top of the truss record the builder as the Smith Bridge Company of Toledo, Ohio, and the date of construction as 1889.

The west end of the steel and wood span rests on a stone abutment which terminates with stone parapets topped with concrete coping. The east end of the bridge is supported by a concrete abutment which appears to be a relatively old replacement of the original stone support. The overall length of the bridge is 98' with the vertical members of the truss being 15'-7" in height.

According to a September 1974 report, the "Bridge Repair and Replacement Program," prepared for the Washington County Engineering Department by Baker Wibberly and Associates, Inc. of Hagerstown, the main structural components of the bridge were found to be inadequate. Relocation of the bridge south of its present location was recommended. The Engineering Department plans to replace the bridge within five years.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**SIGNIFICANCE**

WA-II-263

2-B

## PERIOD

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 100-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

## SPECIFIC DATES

1889

## BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Smith Bridge Co., Toledo, Ohio

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This steel truss bridge is significant for its architecture, for its contribution to commerce and transportation in the area. It also reflects the engineering abilities of its builders.

This structure is one of relatively few steel truss bridges in Washington County. All remaining examples date from the late 19th century and represent a type of bridge construction prevalent at that time. The bridge has accommodated transportation needs in the area since 1889, thus aiding local travel and commerce. Still in daily use, the bridge reflects the engineering abilities of its builder, the Smith Bridge Company.

This span is located near the site of "Schlosser's Ford" a crossing point of the Antietam named for the owners of nearby farms during the 19th century.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Baker- Wibberly & Associates, Inc., "Bridge Repair and Replacement Program,"  
Washington County, Md. Hagerstown, Md: September 1974.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

**Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant**

ORGANIZATION

**Washington County Historical Sites Survey**

STREET & NUMBER

**Court House Annex**

CITY OR TOWN

**Hagerstown**

DATE

**April 1976**

TELEPHONE

**791-3065**

STATE

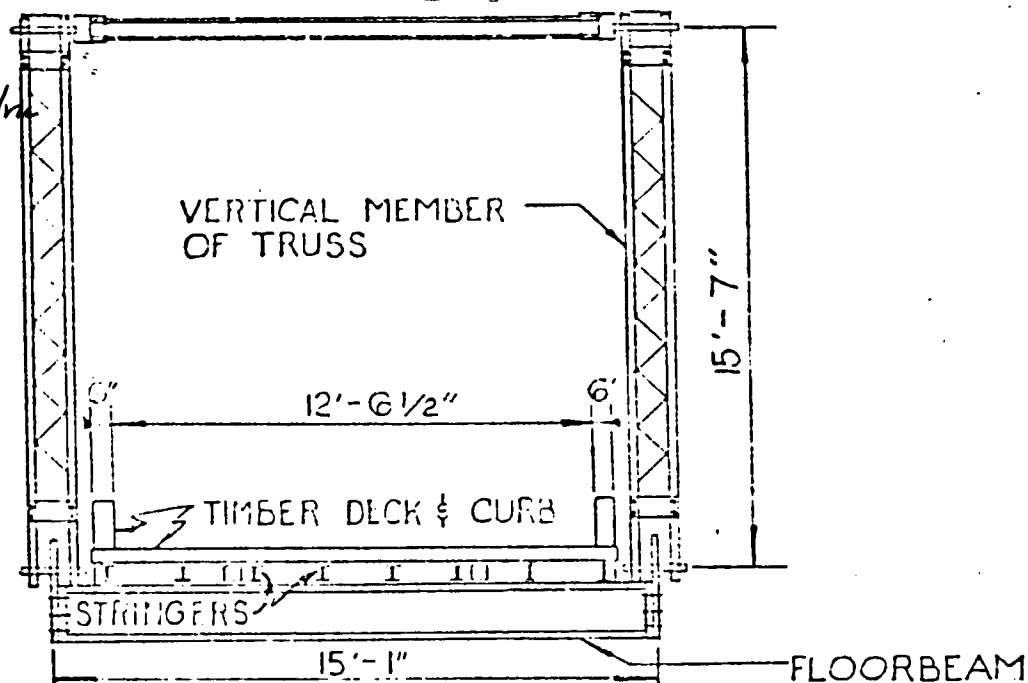
**Maryland**

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

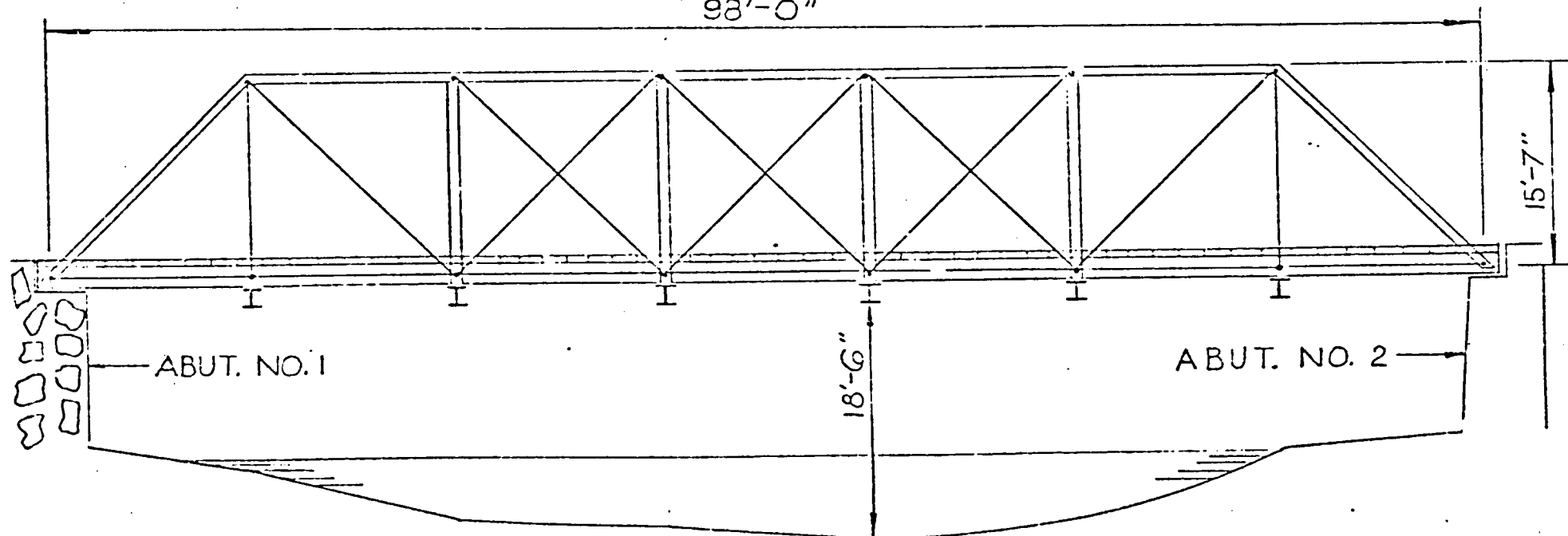
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

Baker-Wibberly & Associates, Inc.  
 "Bridge Repair and  
 Replacement Program"  
 Washington Co., Md.;  
 Hagerstown, Md.: Sept. 1974



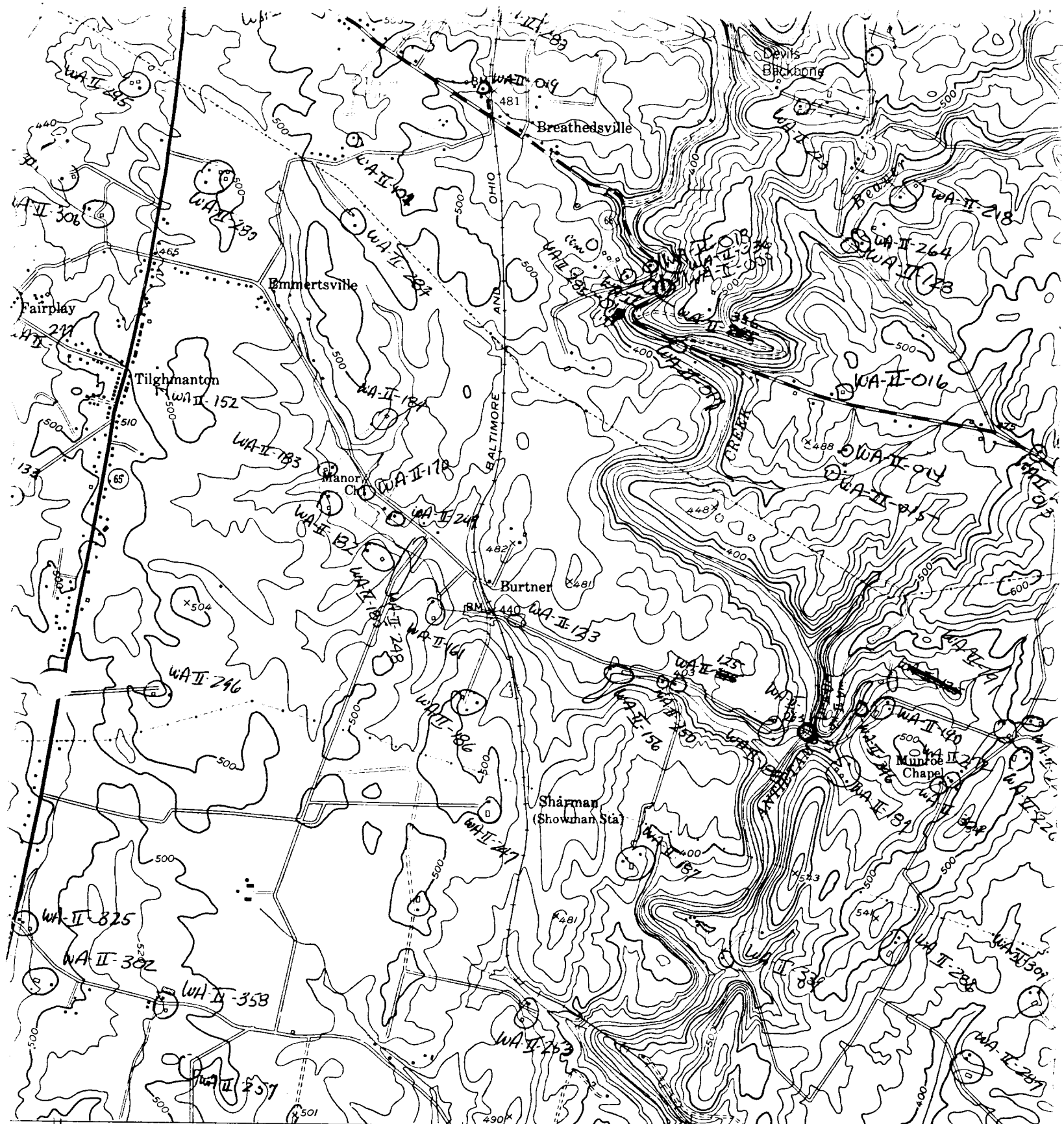
TYPE:  
STEEL TRUSS

TYPICAL SECTION  
98'-0"



BRIDGE OVER ANTIETAM CREEK, BR NO. W-5431

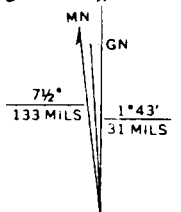
W-11-263



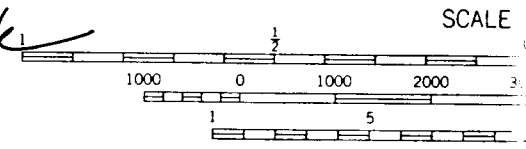
264 1590 000 FEET  
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 42'30"

BURG 28 MI.  
 by the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army  
 and published by the Geological Survey  
 by U. S. C&GS, and USFS  
 phy from aerial photographs by stereophotogrammetric  
 Aerial photographs taken 1943  
 revised by the Geological Survey 1953  
 ic projection. 1927 North American datum  
 foot grids based on Maryland coordinate system  
 eter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
 shown in blue

*Funkstown Quadrangle*

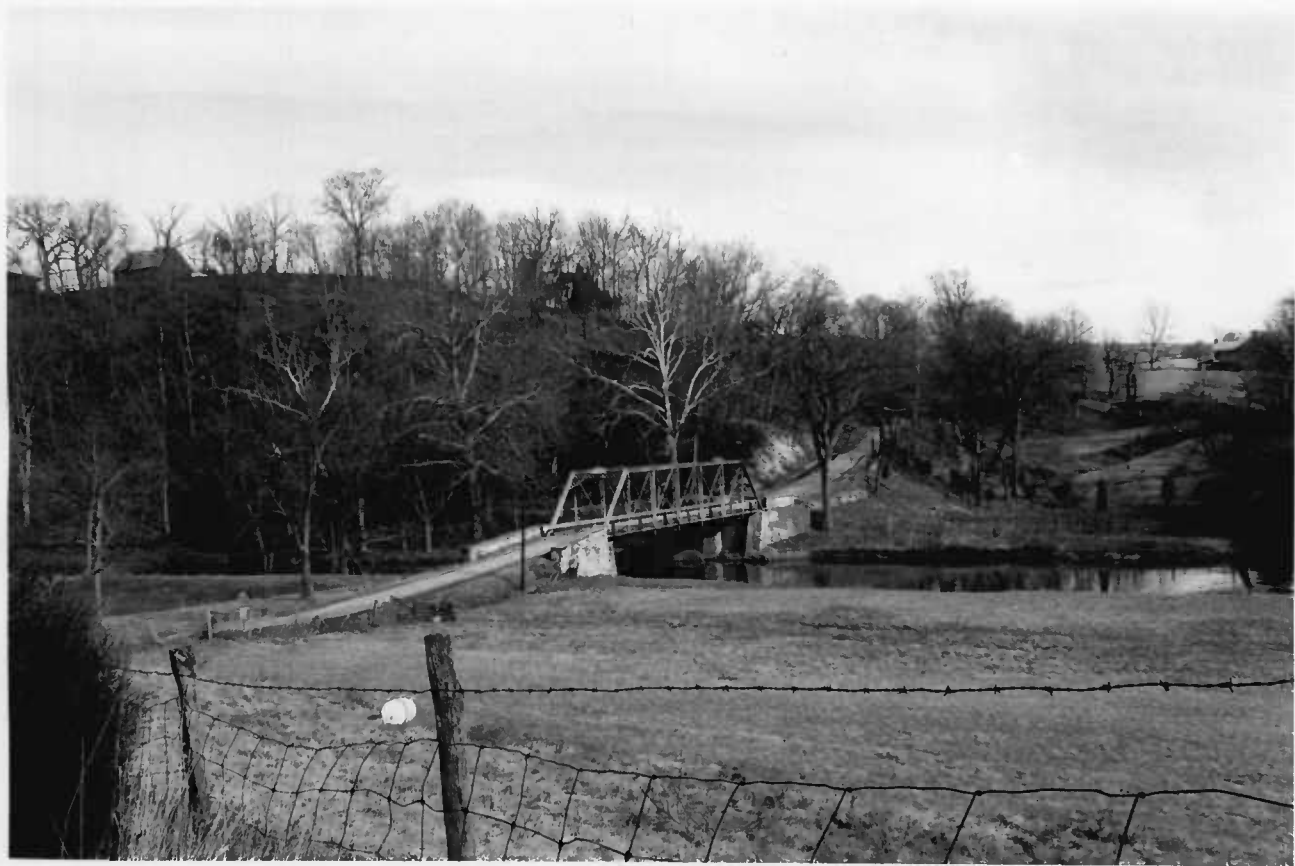


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CONTOUR INT  
 DATUM IS ME

1M GRID AND 14 MAGNETIC NORTH





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S.W.

Feb. 1976

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-263

E.

Feb. 1916

PAULA STONER DICKY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-263

N.E

Feb. 1976

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY